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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/006,684	12/10/2001	Tomomi Izuna	16869S-038700US	9312

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TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER
EIGHTH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834

EXAMINER

THEIN, MARIA TERESA T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3627

DATE MAILED: 08/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/006,684

Applicant(s)

IZUNA ET AL.

Examiner

Marissa Thein

Art Unit

3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 June 2006.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-25 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-25 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

The "Corrected Amendment" filed on June 5, 2006 has been considered.

Applicants' response by canceling all pending claims 1–12 and submitting new claims 14-25 has overcome the Examiner's rejection under 35 USC 101.

Applicants' response by canceling all pending claims 1–12 and submitting new claims 14-25 has overcome the Examiner's rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 14-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,868,397 to McCaslin in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,574,380 to Dubin and U.S. Patent Application No. 2003/0208365 to Avery.

Regarding claim 14-20, McCaslin discloses a method for controlling a reply to a received order for a transformer, wherein a customer terminal, a sales department server, and a measurement department server and another server is coupled through a public network (wide area network) (col. 2, lines 56-61; col. 7, lines 12-24; col. 8, lines 21-41; Figure 4; col. 14, lines 11-14; col. 12, lines 53-62), and the sales department server transmit reply information to the customer terminal to communicate with the

sales department server comprising: the method comprising, upon receipt of access information by the sales department server from the customer terminal relating to replace of a transformer (automatic reorder capability to replace equipment; col. 3, lines 31-32; col. 9, lines 28-44; Figure 6) sending a first response message including a desired inquiry of a customer relating to an installation date of the transformer and transmitting the first response message to the customer's terminal (col. 2, lines 33-44; col. 9, line 48 – col. 10, line 11; col. 5, lines 32-56; Figure 6; col. 14, lines 31-39); and upon receipt of reply from the customer terminal in response to the first response message, sending a second response message including the installation date of the transformer to the customer (col. 2, lines 39-41; col. 5, lines 32-56; col. 9, lines 58-63; col. 11, lines 29-47; col. 12, lines 50-53). Furthermore, McCaslin discloses transmitting the first response message to the customer terminal to guide a reply from the customer terminal in response to the first response message to the server of the measurement department and the transmitting from the measurement department server a second response message (col. 2, lines 56-61; col. 5, lines 40-52; col. 12, lines 50-62).

However, McCaslin does not disclose a measuring circuit of the transformer. McCaslin discloses electrical distribution equipment including, for example transformers, capacitors, regulators reclosures, and voltage regulators and any other equipment used in connection with a business (col. 5, lines 9-13).

Dubin, on the other hand, teaches the measuring circuit of the transformer (abstract). Dubin teaches a current measurement circuit which integrates the signal of the mutually coupled transformer (col. 1, lines 6-9).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the method of McCaslin, to include the measurement circuit of a transformer, as taught by Dubin, in order to avoid the problems of complexity and duplication of components, thus, providing cost efficiency (Dubin col. 1, lines 49-54).

Furthermore, the combination of McCaslin does not disclose a web site and a mail server. McCaslin discloses a server through a network such as a local area network, a wide area network, a token ring network and the like (col. 7, lines 64-65).

Avery, on the other hand, teaches the web site (web site, paragraph 5) and an email server (paragraphs 79, 81, 83 and 95); and email address (paragraph 95).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify McCaslin to include, the web site and an email server and an email address, as taught by Avery, in order to provide global communication.

Regarding claim 21-25, McCaslin discloses a method for controlling a reply to a received order for a transformer, wherein a customer terminal, a sales department server, and a measurement department server and another server is coupled through a public network (wide area network) (col. 2, lines 56-61; col. 7, lines 12-24; col. 8, lines 21-41; Figure 4; col. 14, lines 11-14; col. 12, lines 53-62), and the sales department server transmit reply information to the customer terminal to communicate with the sales department server comprising: the method comprising, upon receipt of access information by the sales department server from the customer terminal relating to

replace of a transformer (automatic reorder capability to replace equipment; col. 3, lines 31-32; col. 9, lines 28-44; Figure 6) calling a first response message which includes an inquiry of a customer relating to an installation date of the transformer and transmitting the first response message to the customer's terminal (col. 2, lines 33-44; col. 9, line 48 – col. 10, line 11; col. 5, lines 32-56; Figure 6; col. 14, lines 31-39); upon receipt of a reply from the customer terminal in response to the first response message, calling a second response message including an inquiry of a customer desired date relating to the installation date of the transformer to the customer and to previous inspection of the installation information in the measurement department server and transmitting the message to the customer terminal and (col. 2, lines 39-41; col. 5, lines 32-56; col. 9, lines 58-63; col. 11, lines 29-47; col. 12, lines 50-53); and an implementation date of the previous inspection (col. 2, lines 39-41; col. 5, lines 32-56; col. 9, lines 58-63; col. 11, lines 29-47; col. 12, lines 50-53).

However, McCaslin does not disclose a measuring circuit of the transformer. McCaslin discloses electrical distribution equipment including, for example transformers, capacitors, regulators reclosures, and voltage regulators and any other equipment used in connection with a business (col. 5, lines 9-13).

Dubin, on the other hand, teaches the measuring circuit of the transformer (abstract). Dubin teaches a current measurement circuit which integrates the signal of the mutually coupled transformer (col. 1, lines 6-9).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the method of McCaslin, to include the

measurement circuit of a transformer, as taught by Dubin, in order to avoid the problems of complexity and duplication of components, thus, providing cost efficiency (Dubin col. 1, lines 49-54).

Furthermore, the combination of McCaslin does not disclose a web site and a mail server. McCaslin discloses a server through a network such as a local area network, a wide area network, a token ring network and the like (col. 7, lines 64-65).

Avery, on the other hand, teaches the web site (web site, paragraph 5) and an email server (paragraphs 79, 81, 83 and 95); and email address (paragraph 95).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify McCaslin to include, the web site and an email server and an email address, as taught by Avery, in order to provide global communication.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed June 5, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants remark that McCaslin does not teach and does teach sending information back to the customer about the installation date of a measurement circuit for the transformer.

The Examiner that McCaslin does teach sending information back to the customer about the installation date of the transformer. McCaslin teaches an equipments information system that provides receiving an order for equipment needed

at a service center that is of the same type as the equipment; and installing the equipment (col. 2, lines 20-21; col. 20, lines 33-38). The system provides automatic reorder capability of replace equipment used from the server centers for recent installation to ensure adequate inventory (col. 3, lines 31-34). The service centers in a electricity distribution company may order needed or desired equipment inventory from a central location or central warehouse (col. 14, lines 11-14). McCaslin discloses an installation/removal module that provides functionality of the manage or determine whether a piece of equipment is installed or is in service (col. 5, lines 32-35). McCaslin discloses a method of entering or generating an order into or by the equipment information system for a transformer (col. 9, lines 28-30). The order is manually needed into the equipment information system, automatically generating to reorder equipment and includes the need day or date for the equipment (col. 9, lines 53-59). Furthermore, McCaslin further teaches an equipment, which was identified by by the unique company number, that was shown to have been installed on Dec. 7, 1993 (col. 11, lines 37-39). The Examiner then turns to Dublin to teach the measuring circuit of the transformer.

Such an equipments information system that provides receiving an order for equipment needed at a service center that is of the same type as the equipment; and installing the equipment; an installation/removal module that provides functionality of the manage or determine whether a piece of equipment is installed or is in service; and the order is manually needed into the equipment information system, automatically generating to reorder equipment and includes the need day or date for the equipment

are sending information back to the customer about the installation date of the transformer.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 2002/0082934 to Koda et al. discloses an electronic shopping system for selling installation kit information.

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marissa Thein whose telephone number is 571-272-6764. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Alex Kalinowski can be reached on 571-272-6771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Mtot
August 21, 2006

 8/21/06
FRANK ZEENDER
PRIMARY EXAMINER